October 10, 2008

Pacific County Canvassing Board c/o The Honorable Pat Gardner, County Auditor P.O. Box 97 South Bend, WA 98586

Dear Canvassing Board Members:

In accordance with RCW 29A.04.570, the State Election Certification and Training Program conducted a comprehensive review of election procedures in Pacific County during the 2007 General Election.

The RCW also requires a follow-up visit prior to the next Primary or General Election to verify the County Auditor's Office has taken the steps necessary to correct the changes recommended in the review report.

The reviewer visited the Pacific County Elections Department on October 1, 2008 and found that the Pacific County Elections Department has changed their procedures to comply with the recommendations in the review report.

The elections department provided sample copies of its Notice of Election for the primary election and they correctly added the information about where voters can obtain replacement ballots. The staff also changed the letter and form to voter's whose signatures did not match so the voter is not required to have the form notarized.

The election department has changed its procedures for duplicating ballots so that each ballot and corresponding duplicated ballot will have the same unique control number noted on the ballot and recorded on the log. They will implement these new procedures for the General Election.

The elections department staff added numbered to seals and logs for both unstaffed, outdoor ballot deposit boxes and the door to the ballot processing room.

The department purchased signs that are placed in front of the courthouse to indicate the building is a place for voting. The staff changed their procedures for an individual voting on the accessible voting unit so that the voter must provide identification and the information about the voter is not recorded in chronological order.

The County Auditor changed the procedures for canvassing and certifying the election and she now presents the canvassing board with a complete reconciliation report at the time of certification.

I commend the Pacific County Elections Department for their obvious dedication to the election process and their desire to improve an already good operation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 360.902.4159 or <a href="mailto:tbuckles@secstate.wa.gov">tbuckles@secstate.wa.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Tracy Buckles

**Elections Program Specialist** 

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